

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 AGR-05 SP-02 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01

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R 091728Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3059

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 1864

E.O. 11652: N/A

PZAGS: PINT, HO

SUBJECT: UNITED BRANDS BRIBE - REQUEST FOR NAMES OF THOSE INVOLVED

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 1800

1. REFTEL REPORTED THAT THE HONDURAN PROCURADOR GENERAL, SERAPIO HERNANDEZ CASTELLANOS, HAD SENT A LETTER TO SECRETARY KISSINGER ON MARCH 12 REQUESTING THE NAMES OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE UNITED BRANDS SCANDAL. REFTEL POINTED OUT THAT HE DID THIS ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY. EMBOFF OBTAINED A COPY OF THE LETTER FROM HERNANDEZ ON APRIL 8. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

NO. 019

TEGUCIGALPA, MARCH 12, 1976

EXCELLENCY:

CABLES ORIGINATING IN WASHINGTON, D.C., DATED MARCH 7, 1976, INDICATE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS THE INTENTION OF PROVIDING THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH REQUEST IT INFORMATION CONCERNING THOSE PERSONS INVOLVED
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IN BRIBES OF AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES.

DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS HAS BEGUN A LEGAL PROCESS
AGAINST THOSE PRESUMABLY BRIBED BY UNITED BRANDS
IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE THE EXPORTATION TAX ON
BANANAS, I REQUEST, ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF
HONDURAS WHICH I LEGALLY REPRESENT, THAT WE BE
PROVIDED WITH THE NAMES OF THOSE HONDURAN OFFICIALS
BRIBED BY UNITED BRANDS.

WITH THE ABOVE REQUEST WE INTEND TO REINFORCE OUR
POSITION BEFORE THE COURTS HANDLING THIS CASE.

I TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO
YOU THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

(SIGNED) SERAPIO HERNANDEZ CASTELLANOS
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC

DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

2. A COPY OF THE LETTER IS BEING POUCHED TO ARA/CEN.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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